

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of embedding a watermark in a motion image signal, the method comprising:

representing the said watermark by a sequence of watermark samples each having a first or a second value;

dividing an image of thesaid motion image signal into at least a first and a second image area;

determining a global property of the first and the second image area; and

modifying thesaid image to increase the global property of its the first area and decrease the global property of its the second area for embedding the first value of a watermark sample into thesaid image, and/or to decrease the global property of its the first area and increase the global property of its the second area for embedding the second value of thesaid watermark sample into thesaid image.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in of claim 1, wherein thesaid global property is the mean luminance value of the respective image area.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in of claim 1, wherein thesaid image modifying step-comprises modifying a series of consecutive images in accordance with the same watermark sample.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in of claim 1, wherein thesaid first and second image areas are the upper and lower of an image halves, respectively.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in of claim 1, wherein thesaid first and second image areas are the left and right of an image halves, respectively.

6. (Currently Amended) An arrangement for embedding a watermark in a motion image signal, the arrangement comprising:

means for representing thesaid watermark by a sequence of watermark samples each having a first or a second value;

means for dividing an image of thesaid motion image signal into at least a first and a second image area;

means for determining a global property of the first and the second image area;

image modifying means being arranged to increase the global property of the first image area and decrease the global property of the second image area in response to the first value of a watermark sample to be embedded into thesaid image, and/or to decrease the global property of the first image area and increase the global property of the image second area in response to embedding the second value of a watermark sample to be embedded into thesaid image.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting a watermark in a watermarked motion image host signal, the method comprising:

dividing each image of thesaid host signal into at least a first and a second image area;

determining a global property of the first and the second image area;

computing, for each of a series of images, the difference between the global property of the first and the second image area; and

correlating, for thesaid series of images, the respective differences with the watermark to be detected.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in of claim 7, wherein thesaid global property is the mean luminance value of the respective image area.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in of claim 7, further including subtracting from the series of global properties a low-pass filtered version thereof, and applying the correlating step to the subtracted signal.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in of claim 9, further including determining the sign of thesaid subtracted signal, and applying the correlating to thesaid sign.